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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, a Senator from the State of Maryland.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Father of life, we praise You and honor Your Holy Name. Awaken in us the joy of living this day, all new, in challenge and in hope. Lift our hearts amid the fathomless beauty of creation above all malice and indifference.

Use our Senators today to do Your bidding. May they fill these precious hours with redeeming radiance and substantive labor that will make a stronger nation and a better world. Turn their sorrow into joy and their sadness into singing. Give them courage that banishes fear and a gratitude worthy of Your grace.

We pray in Your worthy Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read a please communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, April 30, 2008.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,

a Senator from the State of Maryland, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. CARDIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of Mr. MCCONNELL, if he decides to make such remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 2881, the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act. Senator DURBIN will be recognized to offer an amendment on his behalf and that of Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON.

As a reminder, the joint meeting of Congress with the Prime Minister of Ireland, Bertie Ahern, is today at 11 a.m. Senators attending the meeting will gather in the Senate at 10:30 a.m. and proceed as a body to the Hall of the House at 10:40 a.m. In order to accommodate the joint meeting, the Senate will then be in recess from 10:40 until 12 noon.

Mr. President, the first amendment is a bipartisan amendment that will be offered, as I have indicated, by Senator DURBIN and Senator HUTCHISON. I am going to have another conversation with the distinguished Republican leader as soon as he completes his statement here today, to see if we can figure out an orderly way to proceed on this very important piece of legislation. I think the managers have a good feel of this legislation. They think it is something we can complete fairly quickly. We just have to make sure we legislate on the FAA aspect of what is going on in the world today and not

other things that have no bearing on this issue. We will see what we can work out. Hopefully, we can have a good day today and, with a little bit of good fortune, finish this bill this week.

### RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I apologize in advance for my pollen-ridden voice this morning. It makes it a bit of a challenge to speak.

### TRIBUTE TO BILL KEIGHTLEY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who was a fixture of Kentucky basketball, with a fervent passion for competition and a fast loyalty to his country, his State, and his beloved University of Kentucky Wildcats.

Bill Keightley, affectionately known as "Mr. Wildcat," passed away recently at the age of 81. He embodied the spirit and tradition that is Kentucky basketball. Born William Bond Keightley in 1926, Mr. Keightley was an All-State center for the Kavanaugh High School basketball team in his hometown of Lawrenceburg, KY.

He later enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and bravely served his country during World War II. After the war, Mr. Keightley spent much of his young adulthood working as a mail carrier.

Then in 1962, his friend and fellow postman George Hukle asked him to help out washing jerseys and towels for the University of Kentucky men's basketball team. Over the next 4½ decades, he proved himself indispensable as the school's top cheerleader, ambassador of goodwill and confidante to players and coaches alike.

"Mr. Bill," as he was called by friends and family, witnessed three national championships, befriended six

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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